

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A resin composition obtained by melt-kneading:

(A) 99 to 1 wt.% of a functionalized polyphenylene ether resin obtained by reacting a mixture of:

(a) 100 parts by weight of a polyphenylene ether, and  
(b) 0.01 to 10.0 parts by weight of a modifier selected from the group consisting of non-aromatic conjugated diene compounds, dienophile compounds having one dienophile group and precursors for these diene or dienophile compounds at a reaction temperature of from room temperature to the melting point of (a) at which component (a) is in a solid state; and

(B) 1 to 99 wt.% of a liquid-crystal polyester.

2. (Original) The resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the functionalized polyphenylene ether resin (A) has an average particle size of 10 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .

3. (Original) The resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the reaction temperature for obtaining the functionalized polyphenylene ether resin (A) is within a range of from room temperature to the glass transition point of (a).

4. (Original) The resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the reaction temperature for obtaining the functionalized polyphenylene ether resin (A) is within a range of from 120°C to 220°C.

5. (Original) The resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the modifier (b) is a compound having, in its molecular structure, at least one of (i) a carbon-carbon double bond and (ii) at least one of carboxyl group, oxidized acyl group, imino group, imide group, hydroxyl group and epoxy group.

6. (Original) The resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the modifier (b) is any one of maleic anhydride, maleic acid, fumaric acid, phenyl maleimide, itaconic acid and glycidyl methacrylate.

7. (Original) The resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the modifier (b) is maleic anhydride.

8. (Original) The resin composition according to claim 1, which further comprises (C) 0.001 to 5 parts by weight of a compound containing a polyvalent metal element based on 100 parts by weight, in total, of (A) and (B).

9. (Previously Presented) The resin composition according to claim 8, wherein the compound (C) containing a polyvalent metal element is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of ZnO, ZnS, SnO, SnS, zinc stearate, zinc acetate and MgO.

10. (Original) The resin composition according to claim 1, which further comprises (D) 0.1 to 200 parts by weight of an inorganic filler based on 100 parts by weight, in total, of (A) and (B) .

11. (Original) The resin composition according to claim 8, which further comprises (D) 0.1 to 200 parts by weight of an inorganic filler based on 100 parts by weight, in total, of (A) and (B) .

12. (Original) A heat resistant part obtained by molding a resin composition according to any one of claims 1 to 11.

13. (Original) A heat resistant part according to claim 12, wherein the heat resistant part is for automobiles or office machines.